

Squirrel Creek Fire

Update
July 5, 2012
8:00 a.m.

Location: Medicine Bow National Forest, Albany County, Wyoming

Date & Time of Fire Start: June 30, 2012 1:00 p.m. **Cause:** Under Investigation

Size: 10,169 acres **Containment:** 51 percent

Estimated Containment Date: July 7, 2012

Management: California Interagency Incident Management Team 4, Rocky Opliger, Incident Commander

Cooperating Agencies: Albany County Rural Fire District #1, Wyoming State Forestry Division, Albany County Sheriff's Department, Laramie Fire Department, Bureau of Land Management, American Cross, Wyoming Highway Patrol

Fire Status: Last night very light rain occurred over the fire area. Crews took advantage of cooler and moister conditions to continue construction of fireline on the south-west perimeter. That work will continue today, with bulldozers and hand crews being supported by both helicopters and air tankers as necessary. Wet thunder storms are expected to increase today in the fire area and continue through the weekend. Moisture from thunder storms may benefit the fire fighting effort. However, erratic winds associated with thunder cells continue to pose a concern as strong down-drafts have the potential to move the fire in many directions, and to cause drought, bug-kill and fire-weakened trees to fall.

As containment increases on the Squirrel Creek fire, resources are starting to be released in order to be available to support other large fires throughout the country.

Resources:

Hand Crews: 21 Engines: 39 Dozers: 2 Water Tenders: 4 Helicopters: 4
Total Personnel: 682

Evacuation and Closure Update: An evacuation center is located at the Albany County Fairgrounds. For evacuation and road closure information please visit the Albany County, Wyoming website: <http://www.co.albany.wy.us/> Call 1-888-425-7138 for Road Closure information only.

For Livestock Evacuations contact Dale Bratton-Wyoming Livestock Board (307) 777-6437.

Further information, including photos and maps, please go to <http://www.incweb.org/incident/2970/> . Fire Information Officers may be reached by calling: (307) 721-4445 between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

